

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT:SLU

APPROVED BY M:LEAGLEBURGER

COMMERCE: SECRETARY RICHARDSON

COMMERCE: ADOWNEY

EUR:JAARMITAGE

L/EB:PTRIMBLE

H:KJENKINS

EB:HKOPP (SUB)

C:JMONTGOMERY

S/S - MR. SHANKLE

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O 112111Z DEC 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST NIACT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, HU, EEWT

SUBJECT: MFN ASSURANCES

REF: (A) BELGRADE 7789; (B) BUDAPEST 4987; (C) MEMCONS
OF SECRETARY RICHARDSON'S CONVERSATIONS WITH BIRO
(11/25/76) AND WITH SZEKER (11/26/76)

1. WE HAVE NOTED EMBASSY'S REPORT (REF B) THAT FOREIGN
MINISTER PUJA MAY BE PLANNING TO INCLUDE IN HIS SCHEDULED
SPEECH BEFORE PARLIAMENT ON DECEMBER 17 CERTAIN STATEMENTS
DESIGNED TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 402 OF TRADE ACT
REGARDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO HUNGARIAN EMIGRATION
PRACTICES.

2. WE WELCOME A PUBLIC STATEMENT REFLECTING FAVORABLE
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GOH ATTITUDE ON EMIGRATION. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO AVOID

SITUATION IN WHICH PUJA OR OTHER GOH OFFICIAL WOULD MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT, OR, FOR THAT MATTER, TAKE OTHER ACTION, DESIGNED TO MEET SECTION 402 WAIVER REQUIREMENTS WHICH WOULD TURN OUT TO FALL SHORT OF WHAT IS NECESSARY TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS. SECRETARY RICHARDSON INFORMED DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER NOVEMBER 26 THAT HE BELIEVED THERE COULD BE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE MODES OR FORMS WHICH A

DECLARATION ON EMIGRATION BY THE GOH COULD TAKE, AND THAT THE CHOICE OF THE BEST ALTERNATIVE SHOULD BE ARRIVED AT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION.

3. THEREFORE, IN LIGHT OF REPORT CONTAINED IN REF B, CHARGE IS REQUESTED TO SEEK MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, OR OTHER SENIOR-RANKING MFA OR OTHER GOH OFFICIAL, AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, AND CONVEY THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) SECRETARY RICHARDSON, AND INDEED THE USG, IS DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO HUNGARY NOVEMBER 25-26 TO HAVE HELD CORDIAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS WITH SENIOR GOH OFFICIALS CONCERNING THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF US-HUNGARIAN TRADE AND OTHER RELATIONS.

(B) SECRETARY RICHARDSON INDICATED TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER THAT, IN VIEW OF THE INFORMATION HE HAD BEEN GIVEN CONCERNING THE EMIGRATION POLICIES AND PRACTICES OF THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT, THE HUNGARIAN SIDE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE, VIA A STATEMENT IN SOME FORM, THE ASSURANCES REQUIRED FOR THE PRESIDENT TO EXERCISE THE WAIVER AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 402 OF THE TRADE ACT. THE SECRETARY HAD STRESSED THAT THERE COULD BE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE FORMS OR MODES THAT SUCH A STATEMENT COULD TAKE AND THAT THE DECISION AS TO WHICH WOULD BE THE MOST APPROPRIATE SHOULD BE ARRIVED AT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION.

(C) IN THE EVENT THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING THE ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION SUGGESTED
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BY SECRETARY RICHARDSON DURING HIS RECENT MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST, WE WIS: TO REITERATE HIS VIEW THAT THE CONTENT AND MODALITIES OF WHATEVER ACTION MAY BE CHOSEN BE CAREFULLY DISCUSSED, IN ADVANCE, WITH THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION, WHOSE ACTIVE SUPPORT WOULD OF COURSE BE ESSENTIAL TO CARRYING THROUGH THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED BY THE PRESENT TRADE ACT, INCLUDING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE US-HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREE-

MENT UNDER WHICH MFN WOULD BE GRANTED.

(D) THEREFORE, WHILE WE WELCOME PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THESE MATTERS DESIGNED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF GOH EMIGRATION POLICIES, AND ALTHOUGH WE WILL CAREFULLY REVIEW ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MAY DECIDE TO MAKE CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF EMIGRATION, AS WELL AS CONTINUED HUNGARIAN PRACTICE IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD NOT WISH GOH TO PROCEED ON ASSUMPTION THAT PUBLIC STATEMENT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO USG (EXECUTIVE BRANCH) AND US CONGRESS WITHOUT GOH HAVING FIRST CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH INCOMING US ADMINISTRATION ON THIS MATTER.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT WHEN MAKING ABOVE POINTS, CHARGE PROVIDE MFA OFFICIALS WITH COPY OF RELEVANT PORTION OF TRADE ACT, INCLUDING SECTION 402 (C).

5. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE GOH OFFICIAL HAS BEEN SECURED. ROBINSON

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